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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE**

Application No : 10/505,469

§ Applicants :  
§ FORTIN, Frederic and ROBIN, Johann

Filing Date : 08/20/2004

§ Title of Invention :  
§ FLEXIBLE VERTEBRAL LINKING  
§ DEVISE

Priority Date : 07/17/2002

§ Authorized Officer : pending  
§

Attorney Docket No : PUS-H002-001

§ Art Unit :3732

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
USA

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant encloses the references set forth in the attached modified form PTO/SB/O8A. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, are analogous art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and not in any order based on their pertinence.

It is requested that the Examiner fully consider the cited references and that they be cited on the front of any patent issuing from this application.

Copies of the cited references are attached.

An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

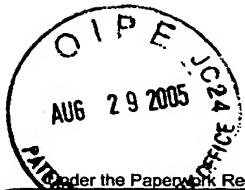
If the Examiner has further questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at phone 011-4171-230-1000 or fax at 011-4171-230-1001.

Respectfully submitted,



John MOETTELI  
U.S. Reg. No. 35,289  
U.S. and International Patent and Trademark  
Attorney-at-law

Enclosure: IDS form  
Copies of cited patents



AUG 29 2003

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## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

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of 1

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/505,469
Filing Date	08/20/2004
First Named Inventor	FORTIN, Frederic
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	PUS-H002-001

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		FR 2 774 581 A	08/13/1999	DIMSO, ELBERG	entire doc.
		EP 0 576 379 A	12/29/1993	PSI	entire doc.
		FR 2 730 156 A	08/09/1996	TEXTILE HI TEC	entire doc.
		FR 2 717 370 A	09/22/1995	MOREAU, ELBERG	entire doc.
		WO 98/22033	05/28/1998	ELBERG, MARTIN	entire doc.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>4</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.